PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuation application of

Docket No: Q77595

MAEYAMA, Akinobu, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/986,782

Confirmation No.: 5967 Group Art Unit: 3748

Filed: September 22, 2003 Examiner: J. Corrigan

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form which are all the references of record in parent application No. 09/986,782 Applicant is not submitting duplicate copies of these references but requests that they be listed on the face of any patent granted on the above application. (See 37 CFR §1.98(d)). Copies of any cited copending applications, if not previously submitted, are being submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 25,426

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washington office 23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 22, 2003

Form PTO-1449	U.S. Department of	C mmerce	Atty. Docket No.	Serial N	o.: UNKNO	NWC		
(Rev. 2-32)	Patent & Trademark Office		Q67201	Confirmation No: UNKNOWN				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)			Applicant: Akinobu MAEYAMA, et al.					
			Filing Date: November 9, 2001	Group:	Group:			
		U.S. PAT	ENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub- Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)		
	5,908,367	6/1/99	Tominaga et al.		Cluss	6/3/97		
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		FOREIGN P	ATENT DOCUMENTS		<u> </u>			
	Document	Date	Country	Class	Sub-	Translation		
		-			class	Yes/No		
	62-172874	11/2/87	Japan			No		
	2-24011	2/16/90	Japan		1	No		
	7-42402	8/4/95	Japan			No		
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	OTHER DOCUM	ENTS (Includi	ing Author, Title, Date, Pe	ertinent Page	s Etc.)			
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not in conformance	e and not considered. Include	e copy of this f	orm with next communic	cation.	, -			

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MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 A & B (06-03)

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				Complete if Known		
Substitute for Form 1443	9 A & B/I 10			Con't of App. No.	09/986,782	
INFOR	RMATION	DISCLOS	SURE	Confirmation Number	5967	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Filing Date	September 22, 2003	
				First Named Inventor	MAEYAMA, Akinobu	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Art Unit	3748	
			·/	Examiner Name	J. Corrigan	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q77595	

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner City	Cite	Document N		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY			
Initials*	No.1	Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		
]		US 3,708,977		1/73	Raymond		
		US 6,085,708		7/00	Trzmiel		
		US 5,937,808		8/99	Kako		
		US 3,721,293		3/73	Ahlstone et al		
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Examiner Cite	Cite	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	
Initials*	No.1	Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶		

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Examiner Signature	Date	te Considered

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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.